



U.S. NATIONAL TEAM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

NTDP WEEKLY NOTES | DECEMBER 1-7, 2014

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| DATE | GAME | LOCATION | TIME* | BROADCAST INFO |
|--------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Fri., Dec. 5 | U18 at Youngstown | Youngstown, Ohio | 7:05 p.m. | FASTHockey.com |
| | U17 at Muskegon | Muskegon, Mich. | 7:15 p.m. | FASTHockey.com |
| Sat., Dec. 6 | U18 at Youngstown | Youngstown, Ohio | 7:05 p.m. | FASTHockey.com |
| | U17 at Muskegon | Muskegon, Mich. | 7:15 p.m. | FASTHockey.com |

* All times are ET

U18 at YOUNGSTOWN PHANTOMS



GAME INFO: The U.S. National Under-18 Team travels to Youngstown, Ohio, for a pair of USHL road showdowns with the Youngstown Phantoms. Puck-drop both nights is scheduled for 7:05 p.m. ET and can be seen live on FASTHockey.com.

ALL-TIME RECORD: Team USA leads, 25-14-3

2014-15 SERIES: The U.S. National Under-18 Team has played the Phantoms three times this year, winning 6-3 (Sept. 17), 4-2 (Sept. 27) and 6-3 (Oct. 10). The U17s fell to Youngstown, 5-2, on Oct. 3.

TEAM USA PLAYERS TO WATCH: F **Auston Matthews** leads the U18s with 45 points (20-25) in 24 games this season ... When F **Matthew Tkachuk** scores, the Under-18 Team is 12-1-0 ... F **Jack Roslovic** is riding a nine-game point streak ... G **Michael Lackey** has won his last six starts ... G **Luke Opilka** is 5-0-0 in his past five appearances ... D **Joe Masonius** leads all U18 blue-liners with 13 points (4-9).

QUICK FACTS: These are the fourth and fifth of six meetings between the U18 Team and Youngstown this year ... U.S. D **Steven Ruggiero** played for the Phantoms in 2013-14 ... Youngstown F **Kyle Connor** helped the 2014 U.S. Men's National Under-18 Team win the gold medal at the IIHF U18 World Championship last April in Finland.

U17 at MUSKEGON LUMBERJACKS



GAME INFO: The U17s continue a USHL road stretch with a pair of games at in-state rival Muskegon. Both games start at 7:15 p.m. ET and can be viewed live on FASTHockey.com

ALL-TIME RECORD: Muskegon leads, 20-13-4.

2014-15 SERIES: The Lumberjacks are 2-0-0 against the U.S. National Under-17 Team in 2014-15.

TEAM USA PLAYERS TO WATCH: F **Clayton Keller** paces all U.S. skaters with nine points (2-7) against USHL foes in 2014-15 ... F **Joey Anderson** has a team-high six goals in 10 games against USHL teams ... F **William Lockwood** and F **Nick Pastujov** both have 2-2=4 against the USHL this year ... D **Chad Kryz** leads Team USA defenders with six points (1-5) against the USHL ... G **Jake Oettinger** backstopped the U17s to their first USHL win last weekend against Dubuque (4-2), stopping 35 shots.

QUICK FACTS: These are the third and fourth of five scheduled match ups between the U17s and Muskegon this season ... The NTDP and Muskegon will meet a total of 10 times this winter, as the U18 Team also plays the Lumberjacks five times ... No other USHL team will play the National Team Development Program as often as Muskegon this season.

NTDP NEWS AND NOTES

USA TO HOST 2014 U17 FOUR NATIONS TOURNAMENT

USA Hockey and the National Team Development Program will host the 2014 Four Nations Tournament Dec. 16-20 at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube. The Under-17 Team will play games against Russia, Switzerland and Slovakia in preliminary-round action before the tournament championship and third-place games on Saturday, Dec. 20. Team USA has won the championship five years in a row. For ticket information, call (734) 327-9251, ext. 317.

U17S EARN SECOND PLACE AT WORLD U17 CHALLENGE

The U.S. National Under-17 Team took home second-place honors at the World Under-17 Challenge from Nov. 2-8 in Sarnia and Lambton Shores, Ont. Team USA compiled a 5-0-0-0 record before falling to Russia, 2-1, in the championship game. The second-place finish marked the ninth consecutive finish in the top-three at the event by the United States. Team USA has won four titles in the tournament, including 2001, 2002, 2010 and 2014 (Jan.). F **Max Jones**, F **Clayton Keller** and D **Chad Kryz** were named to the All-Tournament Team.

U18S WIN FOUR NATIONS TOURNAMENT IN SWEDEN

The U.S. National Under-18 Team was in Sweden last week competing with Finland, Switzerland and Sweden for the U18 Four Nations Tournament title. Team USA stormed past Finland (8-1) and Switzerland (7-1) before knocking off the Swedes, 6-4, in the championship game. The three wins and a 4-3 triumph over Sweden in a pre-tournament contest ups the 1997 NTDP group's overall international record to 19-0-0. The group won all three of its international events last season.

BRACCO BREAKS NTDP CAREER ASSISTS RECORD

U18 Team F **Jeremy Bracco** broke the all-time NTDP career assist record last weekend against Augsburg College. Bracco now has 89 assists in his time at the NTDP, passing J.D. Forrest (1997-2000) - an assistant coach with the Under-18 Team - and Patrick Kane (2004-06), who both had 88. Last season, Bracco notched the single-season assist record with 58.

NTDP OFFICIAL WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

USANTDP.com: The official website of USA Hockey's National Team Development Program provides access to complete team information, including news, rosters, schedules/results, statistics, NTDP history and a PDF media guide, along with other information.

SOCIAL MEDIA: Follow the NTDP on Twitter (@USANTDP) and like on Facebook (USA Hockey NTDP) for the latest news and notes related to the National Team Development Program. Also follow on Instagram (USANTDP) for behind-the-scenes photos and videos.

